

CITY OF JEFFERSON
Regular Council Meeting
August 22, 2019
6:30pm

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Walt Perry, Bob Rossiter, Dave Beyerl, David Watkins, Michael Myers, Edna Campau

COUNCILORS ABSENT: Audrey Webster

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Cook, City Manager/Recorder; Jeff Buskirk, PWD

I. COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE – Mayor Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and led in the flag salute.

1.1 Farewell to Library Director, Katherine Pitman

Mayor Myers expressed his happiness for Katherine in welcoming her first child and beginning that new chapter in her life, adding that Jefferson had been blessed with amazing Librarian's, but Katherine had raised the bar. He complimented her efforts in reaching out to the schools, expanding the programs, making connections with kids, and always smiling and upbeat. Other Councilors added similar sentiments and on behalf of the City Council, Mayor Myers presented her with gifts for their appreciation for all she had done.

II. OLD BUSINESS – None

III. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Property Lease Agreement Review

Sarah Cook provided explanation on the lot lease, which was to expire in November, and also financial information on the cost to maintain the boat ramp, in comparison to the grant received from the Marine Board. With the expenses outweighing the grant, which required the City to spend money from elsewhere, she asked the Council to think about whether they wanted to continue paying as part of a public service, or let the lease expire and the lot go back to the Hamby's, noting the latter would no doubt create further parking problems. Mayor Myers, questioned the need to keep the boat ramp open at all, noting he was simply throwing out the idea. Another option was to create a fee for parking; however, enforcement would be an issue, and people would simply park elsewhere to avoid the lot fee. Regardless of what was decided, Mayor Myers noted they needed to think of all citizens for the entire 12 months and not just the 3 months of the year the visitors flocked to the river. Sarah Cook suggested, that for now, they extend the lease to the end of the fiscal year so it lined up with the grant cycle. It would not only allow them more time to assess the situation and come up with a plan before deciding to renew the lease again for a full term, but also to decide if the City should continue applying for the grant funds from the State. The Council agreed and requested the lease addendum to extend the term to June 30, 2020 come back for adoption.

IV. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

4.1 If I Were Mayor Student Contest - Mayor Myers said a letter was delivered to the principal of each school and explained the awards: \$150 for HS; \$100 for MS; and \$50 for Elementary. Each winner would be submitted to LOC for consideration in the statewide contest.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Beyerl moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Watkins seconded. Discussion: Mayor Myers referred to the annual water loss numbers in the PW report, noting the tremendous reduction over the years. Jeff Buskirk said American Leak Detection had come in to locate leaks, which they then promptly repair. They had also been replacing old water meters and started accounting for every water use, including truck fills, all public facilities, etc. Councilor Rossiter noted it was a 41% decrease over 6 years and commended Public Works. All in favor: Ayes – 5, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

VI. COMMITTEE/DEPT. UPDATES

Library – no meeting
LAC – no new info
Conser House – meeting re-scheduled
Planning – no new info
Chamber – not as active over the summer
TAC – talk on surface transportation block grants; additional application process to use up available funds
LOC – small cities meeting was about the lake and reestablishing fishing; lobbying for building codes, environmental issues, housing, human resources and lodging taxes; Transportation bill went down; Property tax issues had a lot of exemptions; mental health was a big topic, as well as PERS reform.
MWACT – no new info
FOL – kick off this October to promote the 150th birthday; cake and silent auction items; seeking donations; handicap accessible door at Library was installed and working.
Parks – written policies on district/non-district use of facility; painting pool; online registration for winter sports; fundraiser golf event next month in Albany.
Fire Board – looking at an ambulance in Washington; learned a lot about fire apparatus certificate and DMV.
School Board – no new info
Technology – no new info
MPO – no meeting but grants were coming available; update from ODOT rep that their money was cut so Jefferson was dropped from the STIP and, if added back on later, it would be the 2024-2026 cycle.

VII. VISITORS - none

VIII. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Edna Campau shared updates on the 150th birthday planning meetings, as well as the Conser House stakeholder meeting, noting a presentation would be coming to the Council at their September meeting. Mayor Myers was encouraged by the number of people and energy for the 150th celebration.

Councilor Perry suggested including a staff comments category on the agenda. All agreed.

Jeff Buskirk shared that Kyle Ward had passed his level II in wastewater treatment.

IX. ADJOURNMENT - Beyerl moved, seconded by Bob Rossiter. All were in favor; closed at 7:17pm.

MINUTES APPROVED this 26th day of September, 2019.



Michael D. Myers, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sarah Cook, City Manager/Recorder